



A B S T R A C T

A virtual smart card (VSC) is a software implemented version of a real smart card providing the equivalent functionality of a real smart card. The VSC is created and used by a VSC control program which handles the creation, the security and the read/write process of the VSC. The VSC has a logical file structure comprising a public area, a private area, a secure key area, a password area, and a unique identifier area. Data objects in the public area have no access restrictions, data objects placed into the private area are encrypted and can be accessed with a password, and the data objects placed into the secret key area are encrypted and only accessible by a VSC control program. Each VSC may be addressed by a unique identifier (ID). All data objects can be stored and retrieved on/from the virtual smart card's public and private area via the virtual smart card control program using a communication component.

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